UPDATE

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ONTARIO ARTS COUNCIL
CONSEIL DES ARTS DE L'ONTARIO

Fellowships Focus of New Chalmers Program

The Chalmers Program, the long-awaited successor to the Chalmers Awards, was announced on February 26. OAC's new program for arts professionals in all artistic disciplines is both flexible and equitable.

"When Floyd Chalmers established the Chalmers Fund at the OAC in 1979, he wanted to strengthen the arts and encourage innovation. We have created the new Chalmers Program in the spirit of Floyd's original legacy. I want to commend Joan Chalmers for her fearlessness and her vision in encouraging OAC to do what her father did – to respond to the needs of the arts community," said John Brotman Executive Director.

The program is divided into two components: the **Chalmers Arts Fellowships** support arts professionals whose projects are purely arts research, exploration, or experimentation or whose projects are focused on the creation or development of a new work. Ontario arts professionals may apply for a fellowship to a maximum of $50,000.

The **Chalmers Professional Development Grants** support individual arts professionals who wish to undertake apprenticeships, residencies, intensive seminars, or specialized training in their fields. Individuals may apply for up to $15,000 for a professional development grant.

The two deadlines for both components are June 15, 2002, and January 15, 2003. Applicants may apply to only one program component at a time. Arts organizations are not eligible for this program.

Last May, arts patron Joan Chalmers, C.C., O. Ont., declared that it was time to end the Chalmers Awards. This began the process of developing a new program. OAC hosted a series of consultation sessions at which numerous ideas for the Chalmers Fund were put forward. The new program replaces the former Chalmers Awards and a related program of performing arts training grants.

For more information about the new Chalmers Program, please contact Pat Bradley, Theatre Officer at 416-969-7433 or 1-800-387-0058 ext. 7433 or e-mail pbradley@arts.on.ca.

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Applications for the new Chalmers Program are now available on the Web site at www.arts.on.ca

More Money for Compass

The Samuel and Saidye Bronfman Family Foundation has once again partnered with the Ontario Arts Council by providing an additional $50,000 for OAC's ***Compass*** program. This brings the 2001–2002 budget for the program (formerly known as ***Consulting, Mentoring and Technical Assistance***) to a total of $400,000.

A year ago, OAC launched this program with a budget of $350,000 which included an initial $100,000 from The Samuel and Saidye Bronfman Family Foundation. As of mid-December 2001, 76 organizations had received grants to assist them in a variety of activities including strategic planning and organizational development, fundraising, marketing, board and volunteer recruitment, and mentorship. The average grant was $5,000.

The following deadlines have been introduced to the program: January 18, March 22, May 24, July 19, September 20, and November 22, 2002. Results will be available within eight weeks of the application deadline.

If you would like more information about *Compass*, please contact Glenn Hodgins, Touring and Outreach Officer, at 416-969-7407 or 1-800-387-0058 ext. 7407 or e-mail ghodgins@arts.on.ca or visit the OAC Web site at www.arts.on.ca.

OAC Examines Its Role in Multidisciplinary Arts Activity

OAC is examining the gaps and overlaps in its funding of multidisciplinary activity, new artistic practices, and community arts activity. Some new arts practices emerging in these areas don't fit into OAC's discipline-based programs. They include artists and organizations that work in new areas of technology or in more than one art form.

Two community consultations held last November revealed that rigid program definitions create barriers, as does the need to apply to several programs when an activity crosses disciplines. Consultation participants also cited the need to accommodate artists working in new media as well as to support partnership initiatives between disparate arts organizations.

As a result, OAC is considering how it can expand its support to multidisciplinary activity. OAC is currently recruiting a Community and Multidisciplinary Arts Officer, a position that reflects this broader view of the field. Until a new officer is in place, Denise Bolduc, Aboriginal Arts Officer, will also be the Acting Community Arts Officer. The new program design should be completed by the fall of 2002.

Tourism Partnership Support in Ontario

Bill Kenny, Manager of Market Development at the Ontario Tourism Marketing Partnership Corporation (OTMP), recently talked to OAC staff about his agency's support for tourism initiatives in the province. One of OTMP's programs is the Tourism Event Marketing Partnership Program, which provides up to $50,000 for an event or festival that has growth potential and can showcase the *Ontario: More to Discover* brand. This program assists local festivals that generate high attendance but have a limited marketing budget. It can also support the marketing of a tour package built around a specific cultural event. One such example was *The Nutcracker Neighbourhood*, which was launched in the heart of Toronto last December and created a partnership between the National Ballet of Canada, neighbouring businesses, downtown hotels, and the St. Lawrence Market.

Tour packages that offer learning vacations and unique experiences are increasingly popular. Last summer OTMP provided marketing assistance to *Arts in the Wild*, a new alliance of Ontario-based tourism operators and arts organizations that offer arts experiences in Ontario parks, cultural sites, galleries, museums, and resorts.

For more information about OTMP programs, contact Narvin Singh, Partnership Coordinator, at 416-325-2761.

OAC Supported Film and Video Artists Get Exposure on TVO

The cutting-edge work of Ontario film and video artists will find new audiences thanks to a pilot project between OAC and TVO. TVO will air nine OAC-supported films and videos during the summer or early fall.

Filmmaker and OAC's Associate Visual and Media Arts Officer, Annette Mangaard, will interview the selected film and video artists prior to each of their works being shown. The works range from one to twenty-five minutes long and run the gamut from dramatic to experimental. Only work that has not previously aired on either TVO or CBC was considered.

OAC will cover the studio interview costs and TVO will cover the broadcast fees when these films air on the network's Masterworks series, Thursdays at 10 p.m.

For more information about the OAC/TVO initiative, please contact Annette Mangaard at 416-969-7453 or 1-800-387-0058 ext. 7453

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Success Stories

Through outreach and cross-cultural exchanges, the Thunder Bay Symphony Orchestra (TBSO) is connecting to Aboriginal communities in northern Ontario. In early February, the TBSO performed at the Pelican Falls First Nations High School, featuring the violin playing of Tara-Louise Montour, considered to be Canada's foremost Aboriginal classical violinist. Ms. Montour played *Farewell to the Warriors* by Canadian composer Régent Levasseur, performing on the same bill as the Niiwipines Drummers from Lac Seul. Ms. Montour, Assistant Concertmaster with the TBSO, asked Levasseur to create the work, based on an ancient Chippewan song. The Pelican Falls performance was the first stop in a northern tour to Sioux Lookout, Kenora, and Fort Frances that was funded by OAC's Touring and Collaborations program. BRAVO! recorded the Sioux Lookout concert and is broadcasting clips through February and March.

CORPUS, a Toronto-based francophone dance troupe, represented Canada last summer at the IV Jeux de la francophonie (the international French-language sport and cultural event held in a different country every four years), winning the gold medal in the Street Theatre category against teams from 18 countries. They so impressed the international jury member from the Central African Republic, he recommended the company to the Benin International Theatre Festival (FITHEB). CORPUS will be performing *Escadron Volant (A Flock of Flyers)* in cities and towns throughout the West African nation from March 18 to 27, 2002.

When writers labour long hours over novels, they aren't necessarily thinking about the "Oprah Winfrey Show." But having Oprah pick your book can mean huge sales. The Canadian book industry got a nice boost in January when Oprah made back-to-back picks of Rohinton Mistry's *A Fine Balance* and Ann-Marie MacDonald's *Fall on Your Knees* for her book club. Both authors received OAC Works-in-Progress grants for these books.

Inside Out: Toronto Gay and Lesbian Film and Video Festival has received a $750,000 gift from the Mark S. Bonham Charitable Foundation – the largest one-time donation to a gay arts organization in Canada. *Inside Out* has signed up for the Arts Endowment Fund Program at the Ontario Arts Council Foundation and has contributed $200,000 of the gift to be matched by the fund. This festival has been funded by the OAC since 1994. Each spring, *Inside Out* showcases the work of gay and lesbian film and video artists.

Steven Campbell Receives Award

Steven Campbell, Director of Community Partnerships, was presented with the Dr. Gaitskill Speaker Award, in honour of his contributions to arts education, at the national assembly for the Canadian Society for Education Through Art (CSEA) on November 17, 2001.

Steven's 2001 C. D. Gaitskill Memorial Lecture focused on the essential role and relevance of art and artists in today's world and its central place in education. It will be published in the spring edition of CSEA's journal.

Awards and Foundation News

Toronto's **Soulpepper Theatre Company** took the top $50,000 prize at the November 27, 2001, Queen's Park presentation of the **Lieutenant Governor's Awards for the Arts (Jackman-Bickell Awards)** hosted by the Honourable Hilary M. Weston, Lieutenant Governor of Ontario. The **George R. Gardiner Museum of Ceramic Art** and the **Windsor Symphony** each received $35,000. The **Canadian Stage Company** and the **Ottawa International Jazz Festival** were awarded $25,000 each. And 13 companies were each rewarded with $10,000 for demonstrating exceptional private-sector and community support. They were **Buddies in Bad Times Theatre, Burlington Art Centre, Cantabile Choirs of Kingston, Dancemakers, The Guelph Jazz Festival, Lorraine Kimsa Theatre for Young People, Ottawa Bluesfest, Royal Bank Festival of Classics, Soundstreams Canada, The Stirling Festival Theatre, The Storytellers School of Toronto, Theatre & Company,** and **Théâtre la Catapulte.**

Cette publication existe également en français.

Staffing Update

Nina Small has joined OAC as the new Human Resources Manager. Prior to her position at OAC, Nina was with Nortel Networks where she worked in Information Technology, supporting HR initiatives. She is a graduate of the University of Toronto (Sociology and Japanese Studies) and Humber College (Human Resource Management).

Marlene Chan, Acting Arts Education and Awards Officer, has finished her secondment with OAC and has returned to the Department of Canadian Heritage, moving to its Quebec City office. We wish to acknowledge Marlene's hard work in both Arts Education and in particular her efforts connected with the new Chalmers Program.

Ingrid Mayrhofer has returned to her position as Program Director of A Space Gallery. While at OAC, Ingrid brought a passionate and dedicated perspective to her role as Acting Community Arts Officer. **Denise Bolduc**, OAC Aboriginal Arts Officer, will fulfil the responsibilities of Acting Community Arts Officer until the position is filled.

OAC is currently screening applicants for three positions: Dance and Awards Officer; Arts Education Officer; and Community and Multidisciplinary Arts Officer.

Arts Bytes

Artscape in Toronto has produced a "how to" handbook called *Square Feet: The Artist's Guide to Renting and Buying Work Space* that is full of important information relating to the renting or purchasing of studio space. Artscape will be posting a free Web-based version of this 157-page document on their Web site (www.torontoartscape.on.ca) this month. If you prefer a printed copy ($20 per copy plus shipping and handling), please call Liz Kohn, Marketing and Development Coordinator at 416-392-1038, ext. 25 or e-mail squarefeet@torontoartscape.on.ca.

So You Think Giving Out Grants Is Easy

OAC regularly looks for artists, arts professionals, and people who work with arts organizations to serve on OAC juries or on advisory panels. Wanted are people who are knowledgeable, fair-minded, experienced, and up-to-date regarding the arts in their communities. OAC is particularly in need of Francophones, Aboriginals, and people from diverse ethnocultural communities in the province for the juries and advisory panels. These groups meet from one to five days depending on the program. Being a juror or advisor sometimes requires a significant time commitment prior to serving on the panel. If you are interested in putting your name forward or know someone who is, please fill in the accompanying form and mail it in to Call for Jurors/Advisors, Ontario Arts Council, 151 Bloor Street West, 5th Floor, Toronto, Ontario, M5S 1T6 or fax to 416-961-7796.